Pending cauge conversion works

*646. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for gauge conversion from different States, pending with Government;

(b) the present status of these proposals; and

(c) the details of target fixed for completion of the above projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) There are two number of gauge conversion proposals pending with the Government, *viz.,* Naupada-Gunupur and Sriganganagar-Sarupsar MG sections. These projects were included in the Railway, Budget with the proviso that work would be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances. Both the proposals have already been appraised/ considered by Planning Commission & Expanded Board. These are now to be considered by the Government.

(c) No target date for completion of these projects have been fixed.

KVKs in Assam

*647. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to start some Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the Bodoland Autonomous Council (BAC) areas of Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has established Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) *n* Kokrajhar and Sonitpur districts, and strengthened the existing Zonal Agricultural Research Station in Kamrup district to take up the additional functions of KVK in BAC areas of Assam.